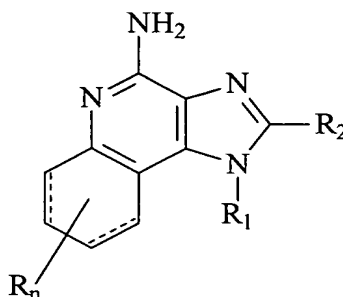


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of the formula (I):



(I)

wherein

R_1 is $-\text{C}_{2-6}$ alkyl- NR_3 - SO_2 - X - R_4 or $-\text{C}_{2-6}$ alkyl- NR_6 - SO_2 - R_7 ;

X is a bond or $-\text{NR}_5$ -;

R_4 is alkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl;

R_2 is selected from the group consisting of:

-hydrogen;

-alkyl;

-alkenyl;

-aryl;

-substituted aryl;

-heteroaryl;

-substituted heteroaryl;

-alkyl-O-aryl;

-alkyl-O-alkyl;

-alkyl-O-alkenyl; and

-alkyl or alkenyl substituted by one or more substituents selected from the

group consisting of:

-OH;

-halogen;
 -N(R₃)₂;
 -CO-N(R₃)₂;
 -CO-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl;
 -CO-O-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl;
 -N₃;
 -aryl;
 -substituted aryl;
 -heteroaryl;
 -substituted heteroaryl;
 -heterocyclyl;
 -substituted heterocyclyl;
 -CO-aryl;
 -CO-(substituted aryl);
 -CO-heteroaryl; and
 -CO-(substituted heteroaryl);

each **R**₃ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C₁₋₁₀ alkyl;

R₅ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C₁₋₁₀ alkyl, or **R**₄ and **R**₅ can combine to form a 3 to 7 membered heterocyclic or substituted heterocyclic ring;

R₆ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C₁₋₁₀ alkyl;

R₇ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C₁₋₁₀ alkyl, or **R**₆ and **R**₇ can combine to form a 3 to 7 membered heterocyclic or substituted heterocyclic ring;

n is 0 to 4 and each **R** present is independently selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₁₀ alkyl, C₁₋₁₀ alkoxy, halogen and trifluoromethyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. A compound of claim 1 wherein X is a bond.

3. A compound of claim 2 wherein n is 0.

4. A compound of claim 2 wherein each R₃ is hydrogen.

5. A compound of claim 2 wherein R₄ is alkyl
6. A compound of claim 2 wherein R₂ is selected from the group consisting of
5 hydrogen, C₁₋₄ alkyl, and C₁₋₄ alkyl-O- C₁₋₄ alkyl.
7. A compound of claim 2 wherein the dashed bonds are absent.

8. A compound selected from the group consisting of:

- 10 *N*-[4-(4-amino-2-ethyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]benzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[4-(4-amino-2-propyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]benzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[4-(4-amino-2-hexyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]benzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[4-(4-amino-2-propyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]methanesulfonamide;
- N*-[4-(4-amino-2-ethyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]methanesulfonamide;
- 15 *N*-[4-(4-amino-2-methyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]benzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[4-(4-amino-2-methyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]methanesulfonamide;
- N*-[3-(4-amino-2-butyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)propyl]methanesulfonamide;
- N*-[3-(4-amino-2-butyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)propyl]benzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[4-(4-amino-2-hexyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]methanesulfonamide;
- 20 *N*-{8-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]octyl}benzenesulfonamide;
- N*-{8-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]octyl}methanesulfonamide;
- N*-[8-(4-amino-2-butyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)octyl]methanesulfonamide;
- 25 *N*-[3-(4-amino-2-butyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)propyl]-5-(dimethylamino)naphthalene-1-sulfonamide;
- N*-[3-(4-amino-2-butyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)propyl]-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- N*-{3-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]propyl}methanesulfonamide;
- 30 *N*-[8-(4-amino-2-butyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)octyl]benzenesulfonamide;

- N*-{3-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]propyl} benzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[4-(4-amino-2-pentyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]methanesulfonamide;
- N*-[4-(4-amino-2-pentyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 5 *N*-[8-(4-amino-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)octyl]methanesulfonamide;
- N*-{3-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]propyl}-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[4-(4-amino-2-pentyl-6,7,8,9-tetrahydro-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]methanesulfonamide;
- 10 *N*-{3-[4-amino-2-(ethoxymethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]propyl} methanesulfonamide;
- N*-{3-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]-2,2-dimethylpropyl} methanesulfonamide;
- N*-{3-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]propyl}-5-
- 15 (dimethylamino)naphthalene-1-sulfonamide;
- N*-[3-(4-amino-2-methyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)propyl]methanesulfonamide;
- N*-{3-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-6,7,8,9-tetrahydro-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]propyl} methanesulfonamide;
- N*-{3-[4-amino-2-(ethoxymethyl)-6,7,8,9-tetrahydro-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-
- 20 yl]propyl} methanesulfonamide;
- N*-{3-[4-amino-2-(3-phenoxypropyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]propyl} methanesulfonamide;
- N*-{4-[4-amino-2-(3-phenoxypropyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]butyl} methanesulfonamide;
- 25 *N*-[4-(4-amino-2-methyl-6,7,8,9-tetrahydro-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]methanesulfonamide hydrochloride;
- N*-[2-(4-amino-2-butyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)ethyl]-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[2-(4-amino-2-butyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)ethyl]methanesulfonamide;
- 30 1-[4-(1,1-dioxidoisothiazolidin-2-yl)butyl]-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-4-amine;
- 2-butyl-1-[4-(1,1-dioxidoisothiazolidin-2-yl)butyl]-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-4-amine;

N-{2-[4-amino-2-(ethoxymethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]-1,1-dimethylethyl}methanesulfonamide;
N-[4-(4-amino-2-methyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]ethanesulfonamide;
1-(2-amino-2-methylpropyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinoline-4-amine; and
5 *N*-{4-[4-amino-2-(cyclopropylmethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]butyl}methanesulfonamide;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a
10 compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a
compound of claim 2 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 15 11. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a
compound of claim 8 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
12. A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in an animal comprising administering
an effective amount of a compound of claim 1 to the animal.
20
13. A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in an animal comprising administering
an effective amount of a compound of claim 2 to the animal.
14. A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in an animal comprising administering
25 an effective amount of a compound of claim 8 to the animal.